

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct a typographical error in Formula (I) in the Formula, the “-I” group should properly be an “-X” group. See, e.g. the discussion at the top of specification page 10 for support.

The claims have been amended for clarity and to recite that at least one oligonucleotide is bonded to a chemiluminescent precursor. Claim 9 has been amended to include the limitation of the composition claim, Claim 7, and new Claims 10-24 have been added. Support for the amendments is found in the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter is believed to be added. Entry and favorable consideration of all amendments is kindly requested.

Applicants thank Examiner Strzelecka for the courteous and helpful discussion held with their Representative on July 6, 2004. The results of that discussion are summarized and expanded upon below.

The claims now require that at least one oligonucleotide of the plurality of oligonucleotides is bonded to a chemiluminescent precursor. Accordingly, the claims are not anticipated by either U.S. Patent No. 4,794,073 to Dattagupta, et al. or U.S. Patent No. 6,143,514 to Ullman, et al. Neither reference discloses or suggests a composition in which a plurality of oligonucleotides are provided on an inspectible surface of a support, wherein at least one oligonucleotide of set plurality of oligonucleotides is bonded to a chemiluminescent precursor, which precursor can be converted to a chemiluminescent moiety which can be triggered to chemiluminesce. Withdrawal of the anticipation rejections is kindly requested.

As was discussed during the interview, Applicants kindly request the Examiner to hold the double-patenting rejections in abeyance until an indication of allowable subject matter is received. Upon receiving an indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants would be happy to consider filing a Terminal Disclaimer if in fact the allowable claims in the present application

remain obvious over those in the U.S. patents set out in the Official Action.

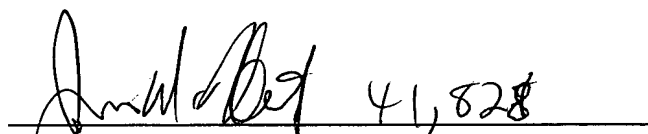
Applicants have removed the language, "such that together they may be used for analysis of the sequence of a nucleic acid expressed by an organism" from Claim 8 in view of the Examiner's comments at page 4 of the Official Action, paragraph 8 (C).

Applicants confirm their election made by telephone and without traverse on October 14, 2003 of Group I, Claims 7 and 8. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of original Claim 9 in a divisional application, noting that in the present application, Claim 9 has been amended to recite the limitations of the composition of matter. Accordingly, Applicants kindly request that the method claim, Claim 9, so amended, be rejoined such that it issues with the composition of matter claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is kindly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



Steven B. Kelber
Registration No. 30,073
Attorney of Record

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085

John K. Pike, Ph.D.
Registration No. 41,253

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